

# Wood Stove Rebate Program

Presented By: Bob West  
aka "Burn Barrel Bob"



Yakima Regional Clean Air Authority

# Yakima, Washington

## Rural, Conservative Community

- South-central Washington
- Desert, 9" precipitation
- Ag economy
- Population 222,000
- Largest city 72,000
- Geography and climate lead to pollution-trapping inversions
- Lotsa trees, few tree huggers



# Early Attempts

- Tried “loan” program in early 1990’s
  - Full-meal deal, including working with installers
  - Expensive -- \$96k -- 93 stoves
  - Inefficient, years later still trying to collect \$
  - Labor intensive



# Rebate Program Works

- Local partnerships, builds relationships
- Low cost--\$17,000 in 2004
- 400 stoves replaced over 5 years
- More easily staffed
- Simple
- Popular

# Partners

- YRCAA (Agency)
- Local Stove Dealers
- Hearth Association
- Local Recyclers
- Regional Gas Company
- Media Companies

# How It Works

- Consumer sees ad
- Cleans out old stove & hauls to Recycler
- Recycler & consumer complete certificate
- Recycler crunches/recycles old stove
- Consumer takes certificate to Dealer
- Selects and purchases new stove
- Instant rebate
- Dealer logs purchase, sends invoice to Agency w/ certificate
- Agency pays Dealer & Recycler

# Budget (2004)

Income		Expenses	
Dealers	\$2,400	Advertising	\$3,400
Hearth Assn	1,000	Agency Salaries	3,900
Woodstove Tax Grant	4,500	Rebate Paid to Dealers	9,000
Fines & Penalties Account	9,000	Recyclers' Fees	800
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,000</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,000</b>

# Behind the Scenes

- Dealers
  - Contract with Agency to participate
  - Match Agency rebate (\$125 per stove)
  - Contribute fixed amount of \$\$ for advertising
  - Keep records and communicate sales
  - Bill Agency for the match



# More Behind the Scenes...

- Recycler
  - Signs agreement with Agency
  - Agrees not to use, sell, or give away old stoves
  - Crunches and recycles old stoves
  - Signs off on Certificate of Destruction
  - Keeps records and bills Agency for fee per stove

- Agency
  - Design and sell program to partners
  - Find funding
  - Supervise program
  - Arrange press conferences & media attention
  - Manage advertising budget, arrange ads
  - Provide ongoing liaison and support for Consumers, Recyclers, and Dealers
  - Pay Dealers and Recyclers
  - Create & maintain contracts, records, and reports

# Results

- Happy Consumer
- Cleaner/Healthier Air
- Increased Sales for Dealers
- Less Regulation/Fewer Complaints
- Softer, gentler approach
- Happy Community



# Wood Stove Rebate Funding Sources

- Agency fines & penalties
- State tax on wood stove sales
- Other Agency funding sources/government grants
- Private grants
- Heating and fuels industries companies and associations, like the Hearth Association
- Environmental groups

# Other Potential Applications

- Replace gas lawnmowers with electric
- Replace gas or propane home appliances with pilot-less models
- Burn barrel turn-in
- Diesel retrofits
- Chipper rebate
- Your ideas???



# Woodstove Emission Standards

EPA Grams/hr		Washington State Grams/hr
7.5	Non Catalytic Woodstove	4.5
4.1	Catalytic WoodStove	2.5



[Bob@yrcaa.org](mailto:Bob@yrcaa.org)

509-834-2050 extension 112